

Message Text

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SUBJ: AMBASSADOR'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE, RECORDED BY
AMBASSADOR IN SERBO-CROATIAN FOR BROADCAST TO YUGOSLAVIA ON VOA.

2. BEGIN TEXT: I HAVE ONCE AGAIN THE PLEASURE OF
ADDRESSING THE PEOPLE OF YUGOSLAVIA AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE
NEW YEAR.

3. IT IS TRADITIONAL AT THIS TIME TO REVIEW WHAT HAS BEEN
ACCOMPLISHED IN THE OLE YAR. I THINK WE CAN SAY THAT 1974 WAS
A GOOD YEAR FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.
THERE ARE MANY THINGS WHICH MAKE THIS SO, BUT I BELIEVE IT SUFFICIENT
TO MENTION ONLY A FEW OF THE MOST IMPORTANT.

4. TRADE IN BOTH DIRECTIONS HAS PROSPERED, WITH AN INCREASE OF
NEARLY SEVENTY PERCENT. THIS IS NOT BY ACCIDENT BUT BECAUSE
OF THE PRESISTENT EFFORTS OF BOTH OF OUR GOVERNMENTS, AND OF
FIRMS AND
ENTERPRISES FROM BOTH COUNTRIES. ONE NOTEWORTHY EVEND DURING
1974, AND ONE WHICH WILL BEAR FRUIT IN 1975 AND AFTER, WAS THE
FOUNDING OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE IN BELGRADE AND NEW YORK
WHICH WILL WORK TO ENHANCE ENCOMIC COOPERATION AND TO FURTHER
INCREASE TRADE.

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5. BUT THE MAJOR ECONOMIC EVENT OF THE YEARY, OF COURSE,

WAS THE LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF YUGOSLAVIA'S FIRST NUCLEAR ENERGY PLANT AT KRSKO, IN THE PRESENCE OF PRESIDENT TITO.

6. PERHAPS THE HIGH POINT OF THE YEAR WAS THE BELGRADE VISIT OF SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER. HIS FRUITFUL EXCHANGES WITH PRESIDENT TITO AND OTHER YUGOSLAV LEADERS REINFORCED THE MUTUAL RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN OUR GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES, AND STRENGTHENED THE BASE ON WHICH WE ALL CAN WORK TO BUILD AN EVEN BETTER RELATIONSHIP.

7. DURING THE YEAR, WE CELEBRATED THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN COMMISSION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES-- THE FULBRIGHT COMMISSION -- BY NOTING THE BENEFITS TO BOTH OUR COUNTRIES OF THIS EXCHANGE OF HUNDREDS OF SCHOLARS OVER THE YEARS. VISITS BOTH WAYS BY PERFORMING GROUPS HAVE STRENGTHENED OUR CULTURAL TIES AND UNDERSTANDING. THE OPENING SOON OF AN AMERICAN INFORMATION CENTER IN SARAJEVO, OUR SIXTH IN YUGOSLAVIA, WILL FURTHER BROADEN THESE TIES.

8. BUT, WHILE TAKING SATISFACTION FROM WHAT WE HAVE DONE, WE MUST NOT FORGET THAT THERE IS MUCH YET TO DO. FUNDAMENTAL CHANGES ARE TAKING PLACE IN THE WORLD WHICH TEST THE STRENGTH OF BOTH MEN AND INSTITUTIONS. WE THEREFORE MUST REDOUBLE OUR EFFORTS TO SEE THAT THAT THE COOPERATION AND MUTUAL RESPECT BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES IS A POSITIVE FACTOR IN A WORLD OF MANY UNCERTAINTIES.

9. IN CLOSING, LET ME WISH TO YUGOSLAVIA AND TO ALL YUGOSLAVS THE VERY BEST FOR THE NEW YEAR. THANK YOU. END TEXT.

10 TAPE BEING SENT USIA AIR OFFICIAL DEC 21.
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